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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/RT
REVIEWED BY 9 M Razi DATE 5/6/82

FROM: TRIPOLI

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 419, NOVEMBER 18

JOINT EMBASSY USIS MESSAGE.

AL RAID AND TRIPOLI MIRROR POSED THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN WRITING:
1. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE DISSOLUTION OF LAJS?
2. LIBYAN OFFICIALS ASSURE US THAT THE DISSOLUTION OF U.S. MEANS NO BASIC CHANGE IN LIBYA'S AMICABLE POLICY TOWARD AMERICA. THEY SAY IT IS ONLY A TERMINATION OF THE SERVICES OF AN ESTABLISHMENT WHOSE ROLE WAS ENDED, AND THAT LIBYA WILL CONTINUE READY TO ACCEPT AMERICAN AID ACCORDING TO LIBYA'S HIGHEST INTEREST. DO YOU AGREE WITH THE LIBYAN OFFICIALS' POINT OF VIEW?

3. LIBYAN OFFICIALS ASSURE US THAT THE DISSOLUTION OF THE U.S. IS COMPLETELY APART FROM THE AMICABLE LIBYAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS THAT PREVAIL. FURTHERMORE THEY SAY THAT IT WILL HAVE NO EFFECT ON THE GENERAL STAND OF LIBYA TOWARD AMERICA. ARE YOU CONVINCED OF THIS?

4. HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE FAILURE OF THE PEOPLE TO RECOGNIZE THE SERVICES OF LAJS IN THE WAY IT WAS EXPECTED? AND WHO IS TO BLAME FOR NOT MAKING THE GOOD DEEDS OF THIS ORGANIZATION KNOWN TO THE LIBYAN PEOPLE? I REPLIED IN WRITING:

1. I DO INDEED. LAJS AND ITS PREDECESSOR WERE CREATED TO HELP CHANNEL US TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO LIBYA, TO HELP ADVISE ON THE CHOICE OF PROJECTS AND TO SUPERVISE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SOME OF THESE PROJECTS. BOTH LAJS AND ITS PREDECESSOR ESTABLISHED IN 1952, WERE CREATED AS TEMPORARY AGENCIES SO THAT THE REGULAR MACHINERY OF THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT, MOVING IN THOSE DAYS WITH ALL OF THE PROBLEMS FACING A NEWLY INDEPENDENT COUNTRY, WOULD NOT BE OVERBURDENED WITH STILL ANOTHER TASK: THE ADMINISTRATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A FOREIGN AID PROGRAM. FROM ITS INCEPTION, LAJS WAS EXPECTED TO HANDLE ITS PART OF THE AMERICAN AID PROGRAM

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ONLY UNTIL THE APPROPRIATE MINISTERIES AND NAZIRITES COULD TAKE THEM OVER.

I MIGHT ADD THAT THIS CONCEPT OF LAJS FITS WELL INTO THE WORLD-WIDE PHILOSOPHY OF AMERICAN AID ACTIVITIES. EACH OF OUR TECHNICIANS IS INSTRUCTED TO "WORK HIMSELF OUT OF A JOB", FREEING HIMSELF FOR WORK IN ANOTHER COUNTRY.

2. MY GOVERNMENT HAS FELT FOR SOME TIME THAT THE ROLE OF LAJS COULD NOW BE ASSUMED BY THE REGULAR ORGANIZATIONS OF THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT. WITH THIS END IN VIEW, WE ASKED IN 1959 FORTHE ASSIGNMENT OF A MANAGERIAL EXPERT TO WORK WITH A JOINT COMMITTEE TO STUDY LAJS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF JOINT SERVICES COULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE APPROPRIATE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT OFFICES. THIS EXPERT ARRIVED IN DECEMBER, 1959. THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS WAS SUBMITTED ON JULY 21, 1960. IT CONTAINS DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE TURN-OVER AND SHOULD PROVE MOST USEFUL IN THESE DAYS.

THUS, THE DISSOLUTION OF LAJS IN NO WAY CONFLICTS WITH US POLICY. IT NATURALLY, THEREFORE, IN NO WAY INFLUENCES AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD LIBYA WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE POLICY OF ONE INDEPENDENT, FRIENDLY NATION TOWARD ANOTHER INDEPENDENT, FRIENDLY NATION. US AID LEVELS TO ALL NATIONS ARE BASED NOT ON THE EXISTENCE OR NONEXISTENCE OF ORGANIZATIONS BUT RATHER ON THE NEEDS OF A PARTICULAR COUNTRY AS MEASURED AGAINST AMERICA'S ABILITIES TO MAKE AID AVAILABLE.

3. AS I STATED ABOVE, THE US HAS FELT FOR SOME TIME THAT THE ROLE OF LAJS COULD BE PROFITABLY ABSORBED BY THE APPROPRIATE LIBYAN MINISTERIES AND NAZIRITES. ITS DISSOLUTION SHOULD HAVE NO EFFECT WHATSOEVER ON AMICABLE LIBYAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

I MIGHT TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO POINT OUT THATWHILE LAJS ADMINISTERS AMERICAN AID, IT IS PRIMARILY STAFFED BY LIBYANS AND WAS HEADED BY TWO CO-DIRECTORS, A LIBYAN AND AN AMERICAN. LAJS HAS ABOUT 1150 LIBYAN EMPLOYEES, ABOUT 70 THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS. THESE ARE SUPPORTED BY ABOUT 80 AMERICANS FROM USOM

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ASSIGNED AS TECHNICAL ADVISORS. OF THE NEARLY 49 MILLION LIBYAN POUNDS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO THIS COUNTRY BY THE UNITED STATES, ABOUT ONE-FOURTH OF IT HAS BEEN CHANNELED THROUGH LAJS. WITH ITS PORTION OF THE AID PROGRAM, LAJS HAS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, BUILT 135 SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE ALLOWED, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 3ØØ THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONAL TEACHERS IT PAYS, AN ANNUAL INCREASE OF 25C/O IN SCHOOL ENROLLMENT. THIS INCREASE IS NOTHING SHORT OF FANTASTIC AND IS THE GREATEST SINGLE FACTOR DETERMINING THE FUTURE OF LIBYA. I COULD LIST MANY OTHER PROJECTS COMPLETED BY LAJS SUCH AS THE EIGHT TEACHER TRAINING CENTERS, THE TOBRUK HOSPITAL, THE TWO MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS, THE WADI DAM RESETTLEMENT PROJECT, THE REFORESTRATION PROJECTS, THE MANY KILOMETERS OF DIKES AND TERRACES FOR WATER AND SOIL CONTROL.

ENOUGH HAS BEEN DONE, I BELIEVE, FOR EVERY LIBYAN TO BE PROUD OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THIS JOINT ORGANIZATION. NOW I BELIEVE LIBYANS CAN BE PROUD THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT HAS REACHED A MATURITY WHICH ALLOWS THE ABSORPTION OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND MISSION OF LAJS.

4. IF IT IS INDEED TRUE THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE FAILED TO RECOGNIZE THE SERVICES OF LAJS, I WOULD ASSUME THAT THIS IS IN SOME WAYS A MEASURE OF ITS SUCCESS. THE WORK OF LAJS WAS DIVIDED OVER A VAST COUNTRY. THE COMMUNITY WHICH HAD A CISTERN REHABILITATED SAW ONLY ITS OWN BENEFIT. MOST OF THOSE WHO WERE HELPED BY THAT ONE CISTERN WERE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE FACT THAT 3,ØØØ OTHER COMMUNITIES HAD BENEFITED IN THE SAME WAY. THE VILLAGE WHICH HAD A SCHOOL BUILT BY LAJS PROBABLY DID NOT KNOW THAT THERE WERE 134 OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS WHICH WERE LIKEWISE BLESSED. IT IS NOT ALWAYS A HEADLINE STORY WHEN EACH WELL IS DRILLED, EACH CISTERN FINISHED, EACH SCHOOL DEDICATED, EACH TEACHER PAID. JUST AS A HOUSE IS BUILT STONE BY STONE, SO A COUNTRY'S ECONOMY IS BUILT AT THE COMPLETION OF A MYRIAD OF SMALL HOUSES. I WOULD HOPE THAT ALL OF US, AMERICANS AND LIBYANS TOGETHER, WILL TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE TOTAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LAJS, THANK THE 15ØØ PEOPLE WHO MADE THESE STRIDES POSSIBLE, AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUED PROGRESS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE REGULAR BRANCHES OF THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT.

JONES

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